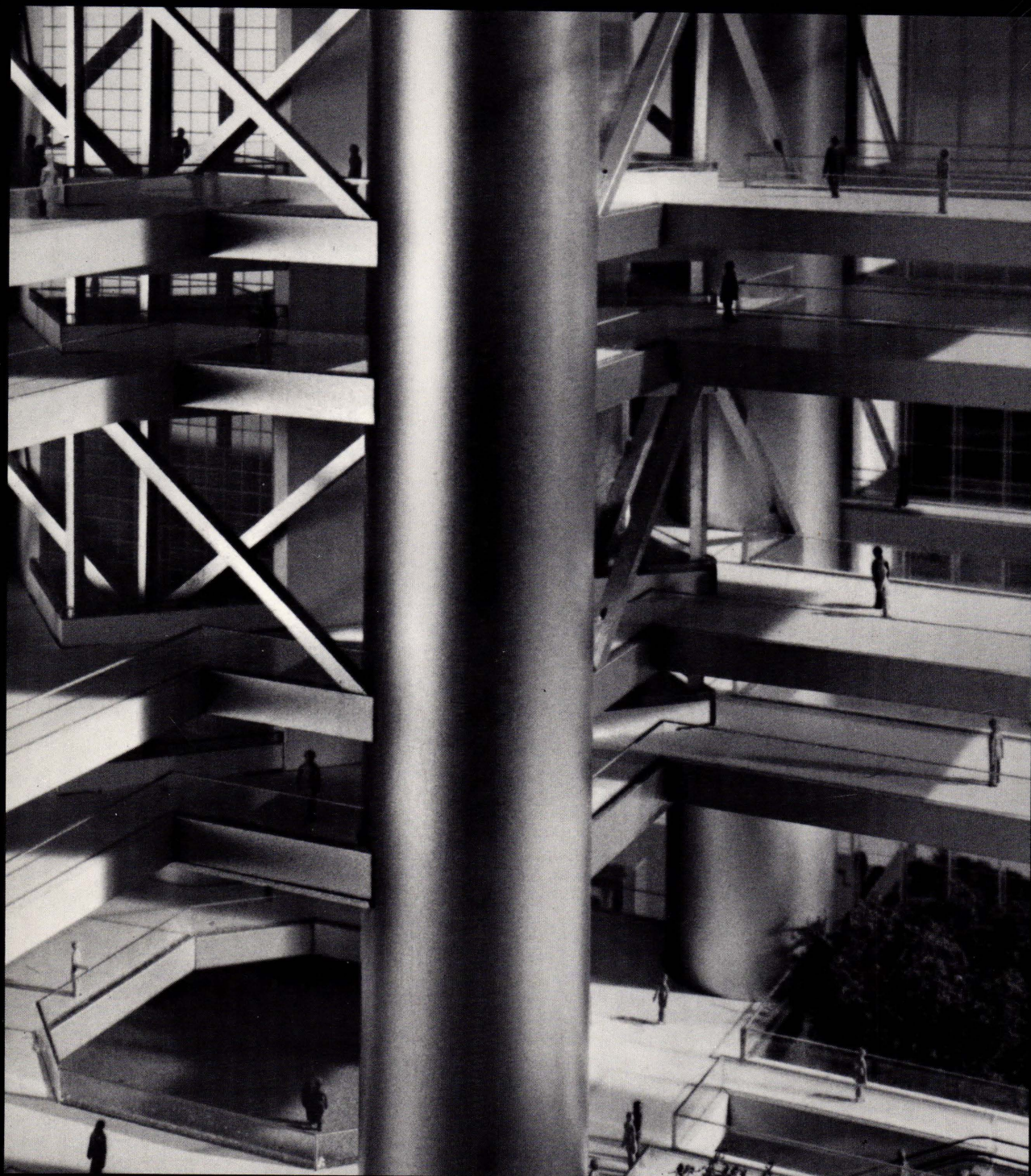


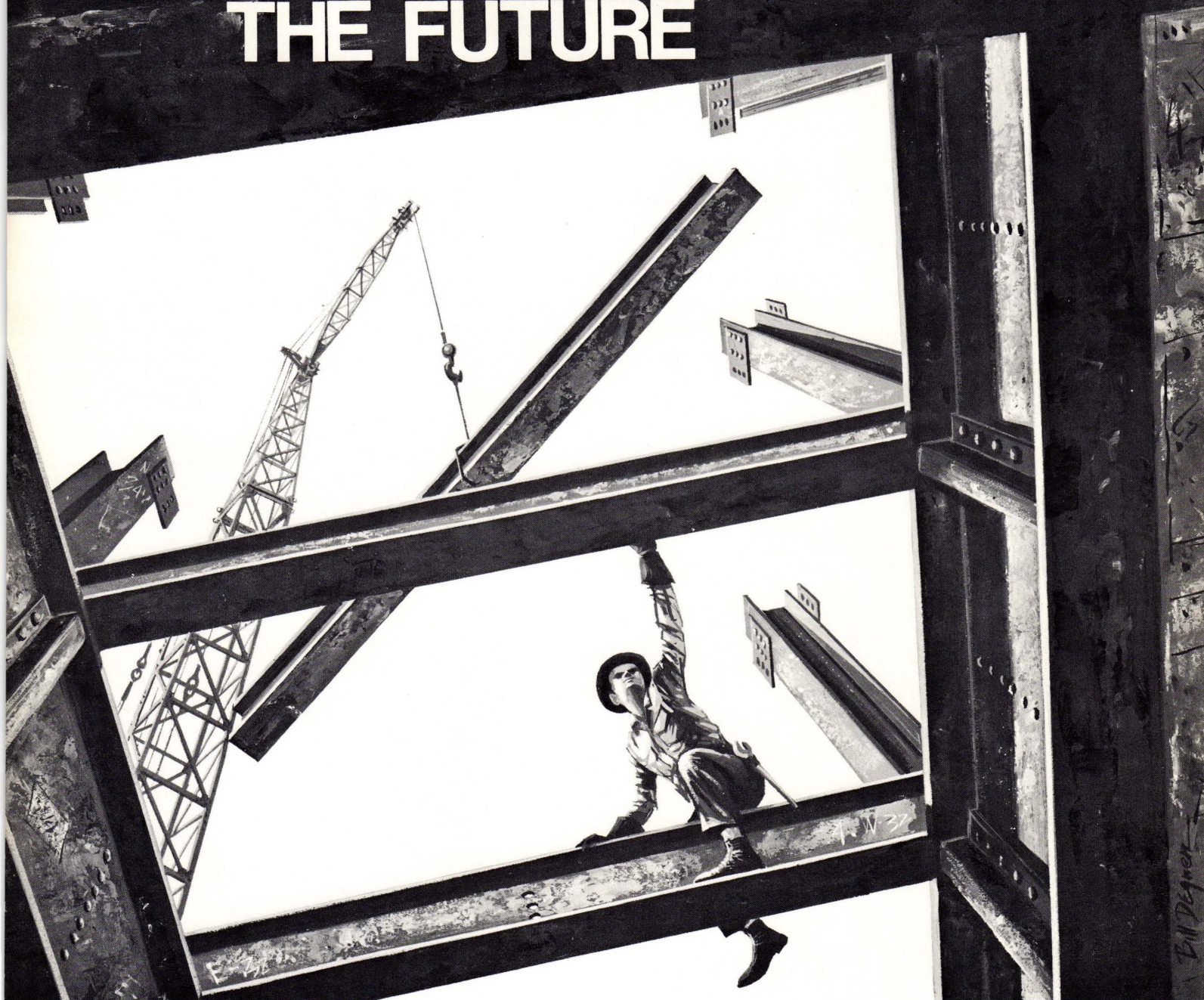
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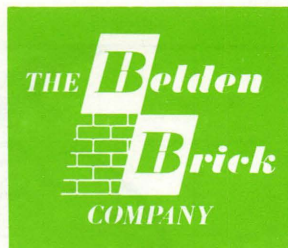
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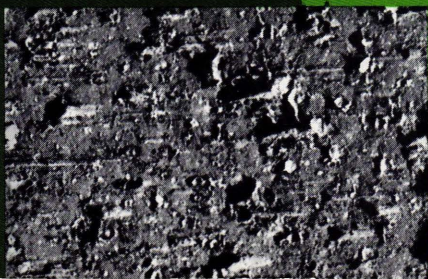
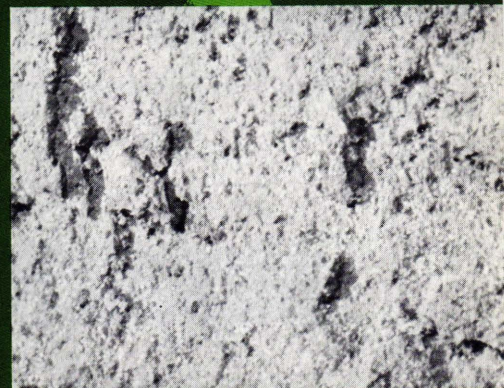
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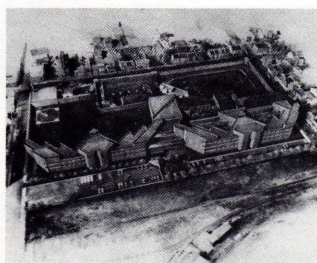
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#### EDITOR'S NOTE

The following credits should have been included in our last issue.

Architects for the North 25 projects in Trenton, New Jersey were:

For the Calhoun Street Firehouse, John P. Clarke, AIA, and Fred Travisano, AIA for the City of Trenton with Doug Kelbaugh, AIA; for the Henry J. Austin Health Center, John P. Clarke, AIA, and Fred Travisano, AIA with Richard Bartels, AIA; for the North 25 Housing, Hassinger Schwam Associates, Architects.

Architects for the Monticello Avenue, Jersey City Rehab project were Paulsen Associates. We apologize for the omission.

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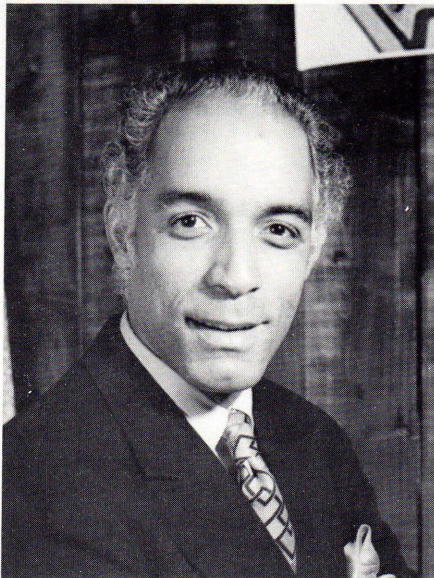
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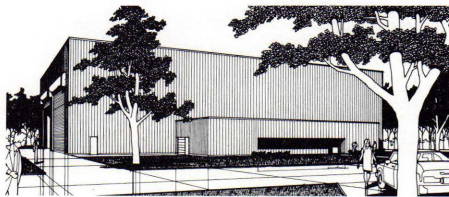
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 Justice Complex  
 Interior of Model  
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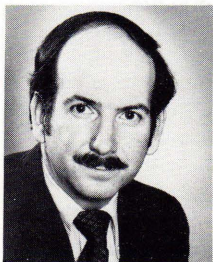
# checklist



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## AIA HONORS

Van B. Bruner, Jr., FAIA, and Michael Graves, FAIA, have been elected to the College of Fellows of The American Institute of Architects. Fellowship is a lifetime honor bestowed for outstanding contribution to the profession. Bruner operates a private practice in Haddonfield. Graves is a Professor of Architecture at Princeton University School of Architecture and Urban Planning, with a private practice in Princeton.

Mr. Graves will also receive one of the 15 architectural Honor Awards bestowed by the AIA for his "transformation of the interior of a 19th century neo-Dutch Renaissance building" for Gunwyn Ventures.

Geddes, Brecher, Qualls, Cunningham of Princeton and Philadelphia will receive the AIA's 1979 Architectural Firm Award, the highest honor the Institute can bestow upon an architectural firm. The firm was chosen for its architectural achievements of excellence and endurance. The award is given to "a firm which has constantly produced distinguished architecture for a period of at least ten years."

All awards will be presented during the AIA National Convention in Kansas City in June.

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

CUH2A of Princeton has designed a huge aircraft fire test facility which is now under construction at the National Aviation

Facilities Experimental Center in Pomona. When completed in January 1980, the building will be the scene of research on means of reducing air accident survivor deaths due to toxic fumes from postcrash fires.

What has been termed "the most valuable real estate in the world" — New Jersey's vast Meadowlands, will soon have another sports and entertainment facility, the 20,000-seat multi-purpose Meadowlands Arena, designed by The Grad Partnership of Newark, in a joint venture with DiLullo, Clauss, Ostroski and Partners of Scranton.

## NAMES IN THE NEWS

JACOB SHTEIR, AIA of Newark and West Orange, has been appointed Chairman of the Edison Centennial Light Committee of West Orange to prepare for the commemoration in October 1979 of Thomas A. Edison's first successful electric lamp lighting . . . BURTON W. BERGER, AIA of Rockaway has been promoted to partnership of Gruzen & Partners, architects and planners, of Newark . . . MICHAEL S. ADAMS, AIA, of Cherry Hill has become a Senior Consultant in the Claims Analysis Group of Wagner-Hohns-Inglis, Inc. a diverse construction consulting firm with headquarters in Mount Holly . . . MARK A. BERKOWSKY, AIA, of Cranbury, has been appointed Vice President of Architecture for S.T. Peterson & Company of Princeton . .

Seven members of the Hillier Group, Architects and Planners of Princeton, were promoted to principal level. They are: GEORGE CEDENO, AIA, JOHN PEARCE, EDMUND A. WILSON, JR., AIA, DENNIS WYCKOFF, all of Princeton, JOSEPH J. BAVARO, AIA, of Middletown, STEVEN DEROCHI of Lawrenceville and JOEL SPAETH, AIA, of Hopewell.

Holt & Morgan of Princeton have just relocated their office into the hot wax section of a car-wash. Their practice has also included such diverse commissions as a design for a new town in Finland, illustration for a book on Baroque French gardens, a gravestone for Highgate Cemetery in London, and a Georgian doll house.

"Building New Jersey: Designs by William E. Lehman, Architect" is the title of an exhibit featuring the work of one of New Jersey's oldest architectural firms at the N.J. Historical Society in Newark. The exhibit will feature drawings, models, photos and documentary architectural material depicting the firm's work nationwide, but focusing on its designs in Newark and other areas of Essex County during the early 20th century.

The Cumberland Regional High School in Upper Deerfield Township has received the 1978 School of the Year award by the N.J. Department of Education for its innovative design. Designed by Armstrong, Jordan, Pease of Somerville, the school is the first public facility in New Jersey to be built by fast-track construction.



## First Quarter '79

Despite inflation and high mortgage interest rates, construction activity in New Jersey has continued at a brisk pace, closing the first quarter of this year 42 percent ahead of 1978.

While many analysts expected residential construction to decline at the beginning of the year, the residential sector actually led the way for construction improvement, registering a healthy 63 percent increase over 1978 figures.

Nonresidential construction activity in New Jersey was partially interrupted by the winter weather, but rebounded in March and closed the first quarter 24 percent above last year's pace. A surge in construction of new manufacturing plants, offices, and medical buildings brightened the building picture, while stores and shopping centers lagged behind in the first quarter of 1979.

Among New Jersey's counties, Hudson, Atlantic and Passaic were the leaders in construction activity, largely due to a strong resurgence of residential construction contracts during the beginning of the year.

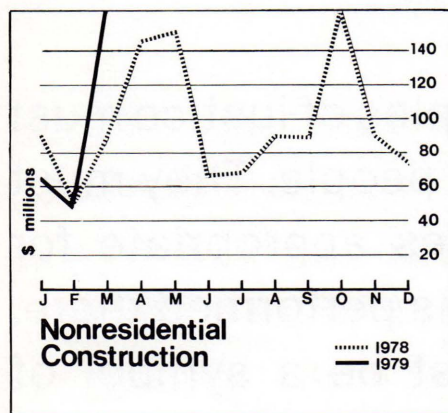
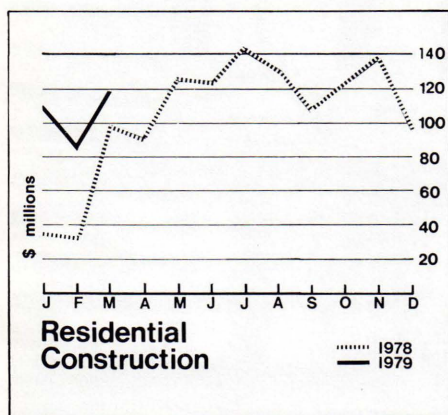
## Forecast

With continued inflation and rising mortgage interest rates, a mild downturn in construction activity is projected during the year. Commercial mortgage interest rates are surpassing their previous peak, and will not turn down until after nonresidential construction activity begins to decline. According to McGraw-Hill cost data, inflation in the Metropolitan New York-New Jersey region has driven the cost of construction up to a 16 percent annual rate.

As a result of these factors, homebuilding is expected to decline this summer, and commercial building should turn downward slightly in the second half of 1979. However, this decline is expected to be relatively mild, and centered mainly in construction of new stores.

This assessment is corroborated by figures from Engineering News Record for nonresidential construction projects now on the drawing boards in New Jersey. New plans for stores and shopping centers are considerably below last year's pace. Surprisingly, office building plans are also lagging behind the 1978 rate.

On the positive side, new plans for manufacturing plants are up very sharply, and educational and governmental building plans are also ahead of last year's pace.



## Statewide Construction Activity

	Jan. '79	Feb. '79	March '79	1979	Year-to-Date Totals (5)	%Change 1978-79
Nonresidential	\$ 65,321,000	\$ 56,257,000	\$167,658,000	\$288,426,000	\$231,680,000	Plus 24%
Residential (2)	107,464,000	84,964,000	119,769,000	311,637,000	190,647,000	Plus 63%
TOTAL BUILDING	172,785,000	141,221,000	287,427,000	600,063,000	422,327,000	Plus 42%

## Statewide Nonresidential Construction First Quarter 1979

	Bidding Volume (6)	%Change 1978-79	New Plans (7)	%Change 1978-79
Stores & Shopping Centers	\$ 8,467,000	Minus 74%	\$39,232,000	Minus 68%
Office Buildings	27,040,000	Plus 116%	95,200,000	Minus 2%
Medical Buildings	20,839,000	Plus 235%	43,996,000	Minus 21%
Educational Buildings	20,530,000	Plus 93%	59,410,000	Plus 75%
Government Buildings	6,824,000	Minus 7%	25,421,000	Plus 56%
Manufacturing Plants	81,031,000	Over 100%	49,680,000	Plus 816%

## Construction Activity by Counties (3)

	First Quarter '79	%Change 1978-79		First Quarter '79	%Change 1978-79
<b>ATLANTIC COUNTY</b>			<b>MIDDLESEX COUNTY</b>		
Nonresidential	\$ 6,264,000	Minus 46%	Nonresidential	\$25,917,000	Minus 37%
Residential	32,281,000	Plus 621%	Residential	22,837,000	Plus 85%
TOTAL BUILDING	38,545,000	Plus 140%	TOTAL BUILDING	48,754,000	Minus 9%
<b>CUMBERLAND COUNTY</b>			<b>MONMOUTH COUNTY</b>		
Nonresidential	2,242,000	Minus 46%	Nonresidential	10,046,000	Plus 25%
Residential	1,717,000	Plus 14%	Residential	24,184,000	Plus 30%
TOTAL BUILDING	3,959,000	Minus 30%	TOTAL BUILDING	34,230,000	Plus 29%
<b>HUDSON COUNTY</b>			<b>PASSAIC COUNTY</b>		
Nonresidential	22,479,000	Plus 184%	Nonresidential	9,841,000	Plus 24%
Residential	6,164,000	Plus 95%	Residential	20,861,000	Plus 142%
TOTAL BUILDING	28,643,000	Plus 159%	TOTAL BUILDING	30,702,000	Plus 86%
<b>MERCER COUNTY</b>					
Nonresidential	2,223,000	Minus 65%			
Residential	9,243,000	Plus 15%			
TOTAL BUILDING	11,466,000	Minus 20%			

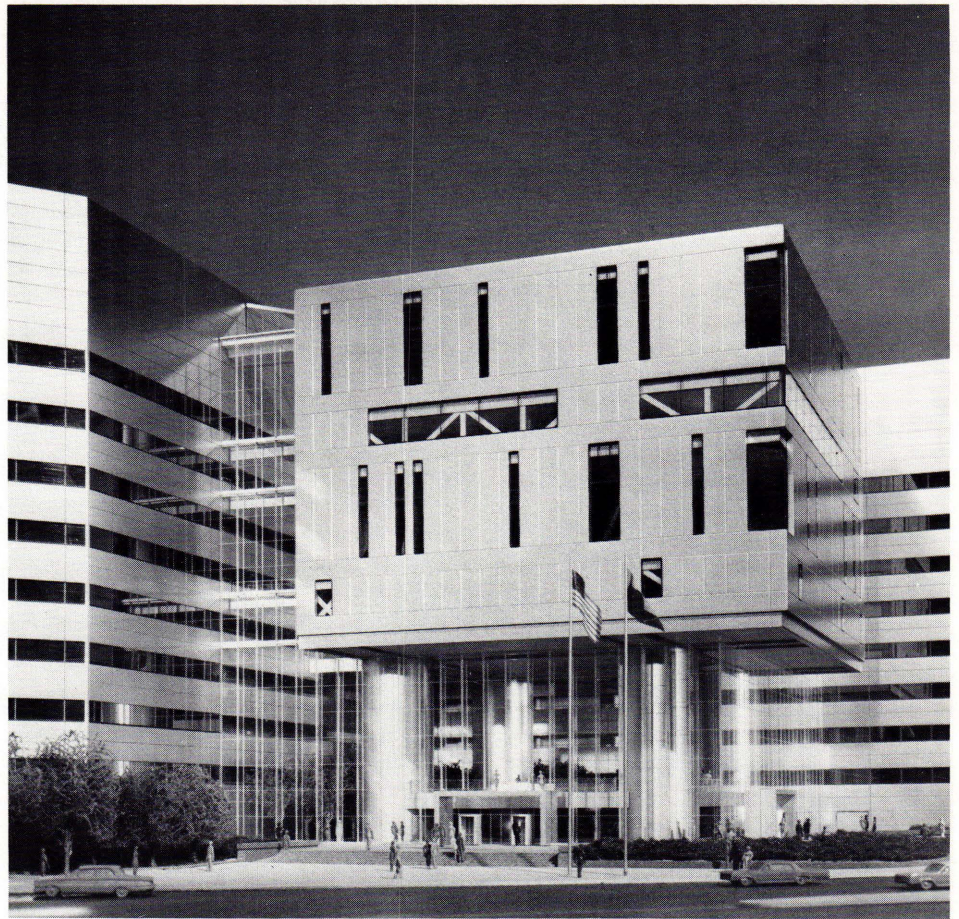
## FOOTNOTES

- (1) Nonresidential buildings include commercial, manufacturing, educational, religious, administrative, recreational, and other buildings not designed for shelter.
- (2) Residential buildings include houses, apartments, motels, dormitories, and other buildings designed for shelter.
- (3) Statistics for selected counties shown are based on figures derived from standard metropolitan areas within the counties.
- (4) All statistics are based on monthly reports of contracts for future construction, prepared by F. W. Dodge Division of McGraw-Hill Information Systems Co.
- (5) Cumulative figures for "Year-to-Date Totals" reflect adjustments not distributed to the individual months.
- (6) Based on figures for projects actually bid and under construction in 1979, as compiled by Engineering News Record.
- (7) Based on figures for projects on the drawing board in 1979 but not yet out to bid, as compiled by Engineering News Record.



# the courts of new jersey

by Wayne Bradford



NEW JERSEY JUSTICE COMPLEX: GRAD/HILLIER, ARCHITECTS  
PHOTO: Louis Checkman

“\*The doors of the temples of justice must always be open to the people. They must also lead into facilities appropriate for the important functions performed there. Each courthouse must be a symbol of the American dream of justice. Whether it houses a traffic court or a supreme court, it should provide facilities for prompt and appropriate adjudication by competent personnel using the most advanced clerical and office techniques. Only thus will citizens be assured that justice is a functioning reality of the American way of life.”

Wayne Bradford is Architectural Coordinator, Facilities Planning Service, Administrative Office of the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

\*The American Courthouse, Planning and Design for the Judicial Process American Bar Association and the American Institute of Architects Joint Committee on the Design of Courtrooms and Court Facilities; Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Michigan, 1973 p. 5.



The New Jersey Court System is entering a new era due to the passage of the constitutional amendment last November which merged the Country courts into the Superior Court System. The achievements of a unified court system will mean reform and improvement. Court facilities of the highest standard is what can be expected as part of the improvement to be seen in the New Jersey Court System of the future. As surely as population, caseload, and court services increase, so it is likely that there will be a demand for more space for personnel and services.

The justice system depends upon the activities of many diverse groups. Judges, jurors, lawyers, secretaries, clerks, investigators, probation officers, witnesses, court reporters, inmates, administrators, and police play primary roles. The public and the press play secondary roles. They all require space to carry out their activities, some need more than others. When these spaces are poorly organized or non-existent or inadequate, the ability of the justice system to efficiently deliver services is hampered.

Space should be regarded as a real property resource to be shared for the common good of all participants in the system. Too often in existing court complexes, space is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, or on a basis of political power, regardless of priorities and functional relationships. This activity sets off a "space race" with people vying with each other for the first available vacancy. Vital justice system participants often are in search of space and end up located far from major activity areas. In addition new needs resulting from increased demands are put off because there is not any available space.

The existing situation in New Jersey is one which responds to facilities that were mostly built between 1796 and 1910. Addition after addition through the 1940's, 50's, 60's, and 70's have tried to keep the court complex up to date and with sufficient space. Now many counties are faced with the need for major planning and building programs to rectify substandard court complexes and in doing so help realize the intentions of the authors of the Judicial Article of 1947 N.J. Constitution making New Jersey's court system America's best.

The Courthouse has been the centerpiece of community life and architecturally prominent throughout the history of New Jersey. New Jersey's early courthouses were small frame or log structures which literally "housed the courts." These buildings, none of which survive, were erected in the then designated county seat and were often the only structure of the newly created town. Maps and history from the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century indicate that many county seats, such as Freehold, were merely called "court-house" or in this case Monmouth County Courthouse since the seat of government was the *raison d'être* of the town.

The oldest existing courthouse in New Jersey and still being used is the graceful Colonial Courthouse in Mt. Holly built in 1796, designed by Samuel Lewis. This Burlington County Courthouse typifies early courthouses in its use of brick, its conservative classical design, and its modest scale.

Morris County Courthouse built in 1827 by architect Lewis Carter and architect-contractor Joseph Lindsley, belongs to the category of early American civil architecture, and represents a combination of Graeco-Roman style with independence in the manner of its interpretation. The structure indicates the architects' familiarity with earlier Georgian and Federal tradition, which combined with their knowledge of Graeco-Roman details, produced a result possessing a good deal of originality. The remaining feature of architectural interest is the interior of Courtroom Number One. Frequently it is described as the gem of all the Courthouse features. Unique to Morris County Courthouse is the extreme care and sensitivity taken to blend the colonial exterior of the courthouses with the contemporary functional efficient interior design.

The cornerstone of the Hunterdon County Courthouse scene of the infamous 1935 Lindberg trial was laid in 1828. The building as it stands today has witnessed only minor changes through the years. Designed by architect Mahlon Fisher it was built in the Neo-classical style with a classical portico and cupola.

Hudson County's Courthouse of 1910 takes a vivid imagination to picture it as it was, and it will take an equal effort to see it restored to its "Modern Renaissance" or Beaux Arts splendor. Designed by Hugh Roberts, it is one of a group of American buildings of the period which, according to critic and historian Fiske Kimbal, "had no equal anywhere at the time, not even in France itself." Rich and imposing it was the scene which exemplified the Renaissance concept of a group of artisans and artists working together to create a masterpiece. On the dome of the Rotunda are four pendentives by Edwin Blashfield. Blashfield also painted the dome of Essex's Courthouses and achieved national prominence through his work at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The stained glass of the dome and of the many courtrooms is by B.E. Freund who learned his trade at the Tiffany works. On August 25, 1970, the Hudson County Courthouse was officially entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior. This gives the building a measure of prestige and protection—but little else. The courthouse sits empty today with the exception of the county planning board.

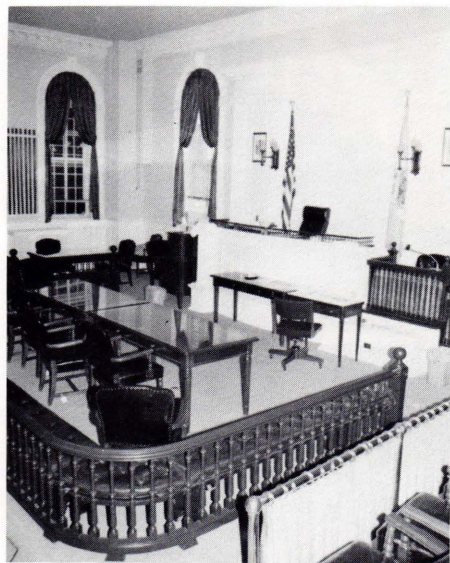
The golden dome of the fine Court House of Passaic County rises over the City of Paterson, distinctly visible from every quarter. This handsome classic structure, whose architecture follows the style of many of our state capitols, was authorized



BURLINGTON CO. COURTHOUSE



MORRIS CO. COURTHOUSE



ORIGINAL COURT ROOM: MORRIS CO.



HUDSON CO. COURTHOUSE

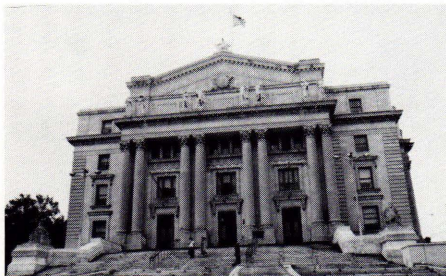




PASSAIC CO. COURTHOUSE



ROTONDA: PASSAIC CO.



ESSEX CO. COURTHOUSE



ROTONDA: ESSEX CO.

June 19, 1897, its cornerstone laid April 27, 1898, and it was opened for occupancy October 26, 1903. Passaic led the way among our counties in replacing the humbler courthouses of an earlier era. The architect was W. Burrage Reed, of Bergen County. The edifice has since been thoroughly renovated and redecored. Its plan is that of a Greek cross, with two fine porticoes on front and rear, of Corinthian columns, and sculptured pediments. Its exterior, and much of its interior, is of marble; around the edge of the roof runs a marble balustrade. Within an impressive rotunda rises to the interior of the dome; the cupola is surmounted by a lantern capped with a figure of Justice.

Now sitting on either side are buildings of different periods which also house the courts and make for a very interesting complex. The Old Hall of Records in its high victorian gothic style raises stately housing courts and ancillary facilities. On the other side now sits a modern new courts building by Neil S. Greydanus and James Pipines. Finished in the early 1970's this complex is a working model of refurbishing the old, adding the new and producing a functional and aesthetically pleasing governmental complex.

Again Essex County is an example of the old, refurbished, and the new. Of particular interest is the old courthouse, which is now on the National Registrar. At its building it was thought to be the most ambitious project in New Jersey and is one of the most tasteful and beautiful in the United States. Authorized by the Legislature in 1900, the design was chosen after a competition of leading American architects. The winner was Cass Gilbert, architect of the New York Custom House, the Woolworth Building, and more recently of the New United States Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C. Finished in 1907 the design is Modern Renaissance, with exterior and much of the interior of marble. Upon entering, we find ourselves in the impressive main staircase hall rising to a dome, with two grand staircases on either side, perhaps one of the most dynamic spaces in New Jersey. On the four pendentives under the corners of the dome are painted four colossal seated female allegorical figures by the celebrated American mural painter Edwin H. Blashfield: "Wisdom," "Knowledge," "Power" and "Mercy." On a small park in front of the courthouse stands the nationally famous bronze statue of Lincoln, seated on a bench, musing with his tall hat on the bench beside him.

Within this article, much space has been spent reviewing historical courthouses in New Jersey due to the lack of many modern facilities. There are some, however. We have mentioned Passaic and Essex but should point out Middlesex for its closed circuit t.v. security system and Monmouth for its understandable circulation pattern.

Atlantic County Civil Courts Building in Atlantic City designed by Philadelphia ar-

chitect George M. Ewing and completed in the mid 70's is the only courts building in the state which includes the "courtroom in-the-round." This new layout which was employed by Frank Lloyd Wright in California at the Marin County Courthouse is thought to be the format of the future. Of course, it is not if it is solely a traditional square courtroom with no corners.

While this building type (Justice Facilities) is one that few firms in the country have had major experience, due to lack of demand, some architectural firms from New Jersey have recently succeeded in winning justice design projects for their offices.

Leading the way for new justice facilities in New Jersey is the judiciary, the Department of Law and Public Safety, and the Department of the Public Advocate, who will all be housed in the New Justice Complex now under construction in Trenton. The firms of the Grad Partnership and J. Robert Hillier, Architects/Planners, P.A. have formed a joint venture team to design this 800,000 square foot office complex and 200,000 square foot indoor parking facility. The functions performed by the three agencies define a complex hierarchy of public and private activities. By far the most important ceremonial activity is the session of the Supreme Court which is equivalent, as a separate branch of the state government, to the legislative chambers of the State House. The Supreme Courtroom, then, requires a symbolic presence equal to that of the State House and appropriate to the international renown of the New Jersey Judiciary.

The site in which the Justice Complex will be located, is a long narrow area between the river and the edge of Trenton's central business district. It is ordered by two axial streets which cross at an acute angle. Dominating a corner of the southern Capitol Complex, the new building has been designed as two adjacent sides of a square which opens to the approach axis from the other state buildings. The visitor is received on a large outdoor plaza in front of the north and west facades from which his path is defined on axis into the public forum at grade.

The forum concept has been used in the Justice Complex as a basic architectural form-giver. Symbolic of the administration of justice since the ancient Greeks, the forum embraced by columns represents in the Justice Complex, the Tax Court, the Appellate Court, the Conference Center and at the highest level the Supreme Court itself.

The Camden County Hall of Justice designed by the Gutwein-Guenther Professional Association of Collingswood and the Associated Architects Henry D. Dagit, of Philadelphia and Oliver and Becica, AIA, of Cherry Hill is another large scale project but on the county level in an urban setting in need of revitalization. These firms established early in their design, goals that would provide structure that would



minimize conflict in operation and circulation between the multiple functions housed, be robust in character while maintaining simplicity in plan, a clear sense of orientation, and demonstrate a fresh attitude toward an image for modern courthouse design which is both welcoming and dignified. There was also a commitment to improve the quality of the downtown environment, create an activity center which will stimulate the revitalization of downtown Camden, and link the developing business district west of 5th Street to the existing CBD.

At the Building Scale, circulation is a unique problem in courthouse design. Here it is accommodated in three separate and distinct movement paths: public, judicial circulation is accommodated through horizontal movement along a spine, whereas prisoner circulation is strictly vertical, and direct from holding areas in the basement to the courtrooms. The spinal scheme facilitates expansion to the West in the future, an important requirement in the program.

At yet another level, the municipal court presents design problems inherent in the larger scale county courthouse but distinctively different in program. Two such projects completed in 1977 by CUH2A of Princeton are included here. Both are municipal facilities, one houses municipal offices, police for Old Bridge Township department and municipal court, civic center, central library, and a public works building. Due to the rapid rate of growth projected for the Township, the Center has been designed to double in size during the next ten years. To accommodate this expansion, Phase I buildings have been designed and located on the site to facilitate expansion of each municipal function while maintaining and even reinforcing the initial pedestrian and vehicular circulation patterns. The other for the Township of East Windsor is a Police Headquarters and Municipal Court Building. Like the Old Bridge Township Municipal Center this project must serve the needs of many users. Both have shared facilities and many spaces including the Courtroom must serve many functions.

These new projects are evidence that Justice Facilities have begun to make their mark on the profession as a building type. Communities and counties throughout the state and nation are looking at their justice facilities and many see the need for expansion. Those futurists will be looking for a court facility that will answer the needs of that time. They will be looking for a design profession who understands the Courtroom and Complex of the future.

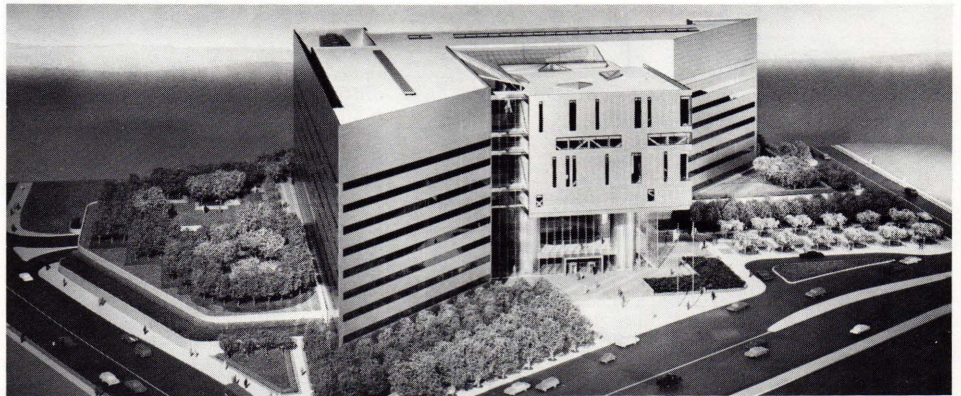
The Courtroom of the Future will employ modern technology to its fullest. For security, closed circuit t.v. will be used at entrances for judges, the public, prisoner holding and hall monitoring. It could also be used to post court schedules. Other technologies that could be used and in



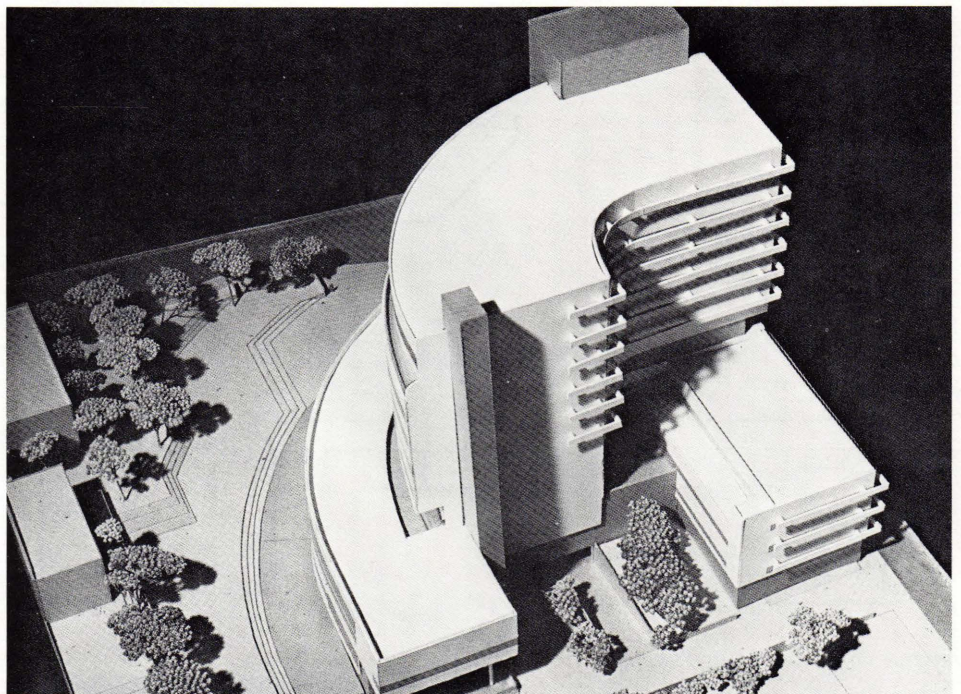
ATLANTIC CO. CIVIL COURTS BLDG.  
GEORGE M. EWING, AIA, ARCHITECT



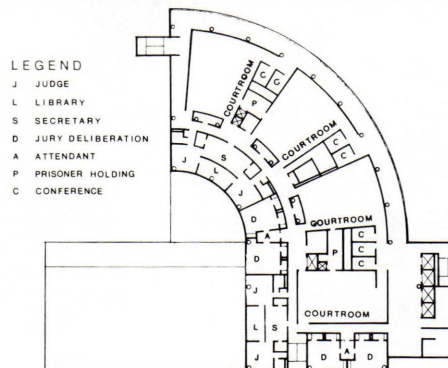
COURT ROOM IN-THE-ROUND: ATLANTIC CO.



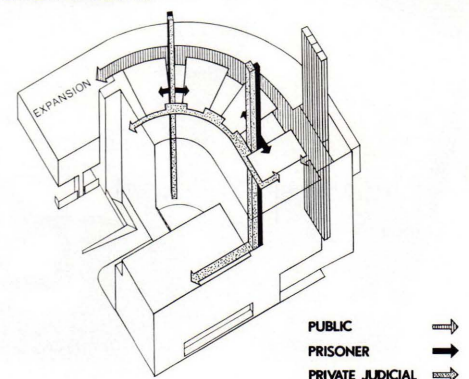
NEW JERSEY JUSTICE COMPLEX, TRENTON — GRAD/HILLIER, ARCHITECTS  
(PHOTO: Louis Checkman)



CAMDEN CO. HALL OF JUSTICE — ARCHITECTS: GUTWEIN-GUENTHER, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION, ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS HENRY D. DAGIT/OLIVER & BECKA



COURT FLOOR: CAMDEN CO.

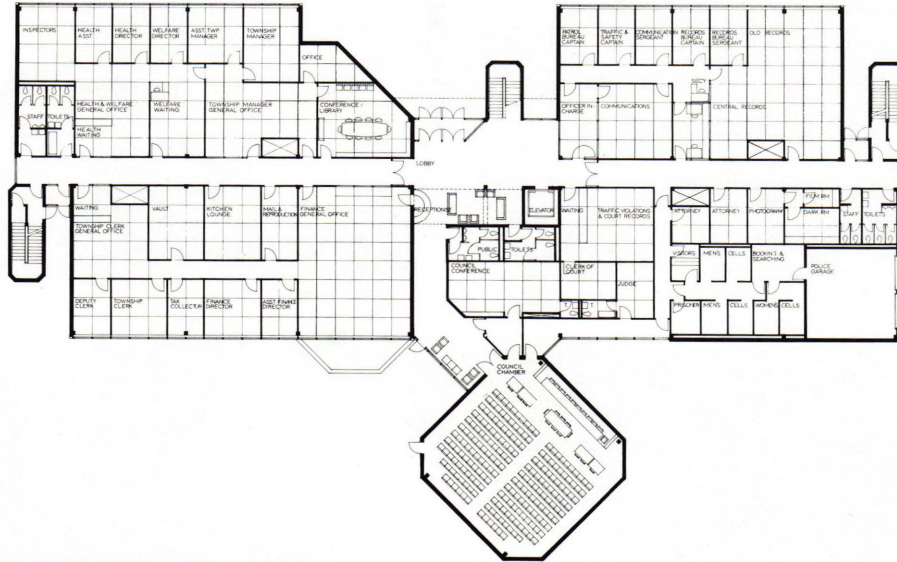


CIRCULATION: CAMDEN CO.

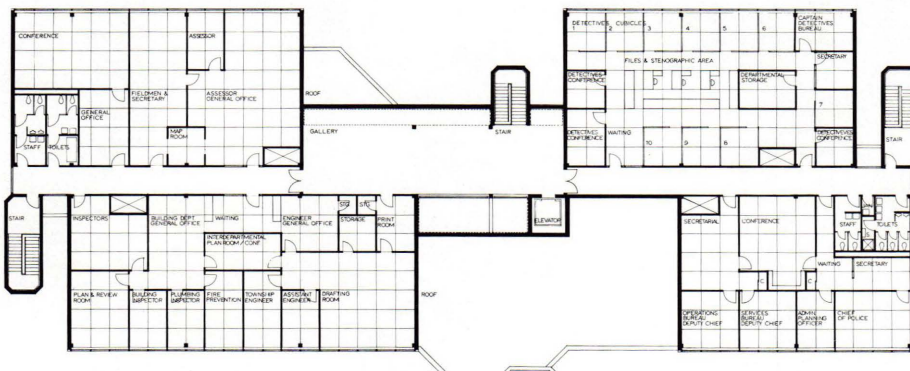




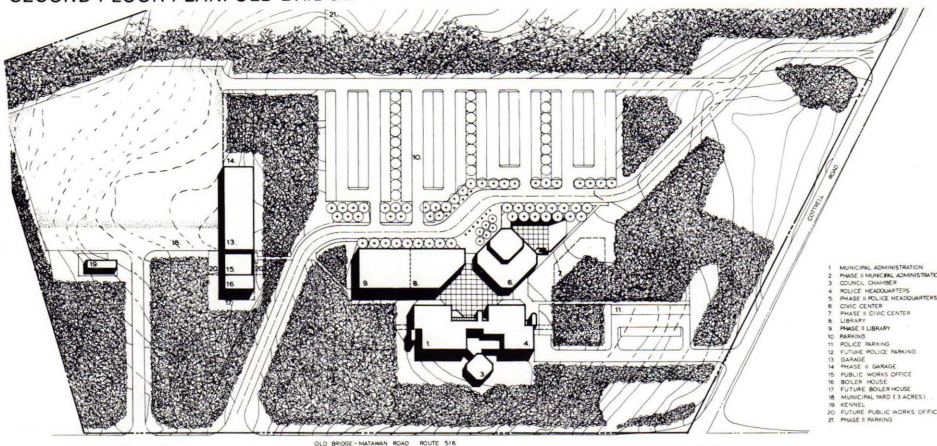
OLD BRIDGE MUNICIPAL CENTER — CUH2A, ARCHITECTS (PHOTO: Otto Baitz)



FIRST FLOOR PLAN: OLD BRIDGE



SECOND FLOOR PLAN: OLD BRIDGE



SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN: OLD BRIDGE

some places are used for security purposes are automatic metal sensors, bullet-proof glass, and activating door locks. Already separate entrances and circulation for judges, the public and prisoners are incorporated into courthouse design and it is felt to be an important design concept. Holding cells (isolation rooms) should be off each courtroom and equipped with closed circuit t.v., soundproof glass windows for visual contact with attorney and phones for attorney conference.

Because video tape and recording are in heavy use, a court technician will be necessary and located in a one way glass AV equipment booth. Court reporters and news reporters both would also be located in a one way glass booth. The courtroom would be equipped with projection screen, t.v. monitors at the various stations in the courtroom, x-ray viewer, chalkboard, tackboard, 8-track video system, document reader and CRT computer terminal. Perhaps, too, the courtroom would be circular with an arena for the court participants and sloping theater seating for spectators who are seated in continental style seating of clear plastic chairs (for security reasons). Lighting in the arena would be of utmost importance and subdued lighting in spectator arena.

Seem far fetched? It certainly does, especially compared to the previous historical discussion. The design of today's courtroom is not much different than that of old England's King's Courtroom but yet our needs, procedure, caseload, services and society have all changed. The situation in which New Jersey's courts find themselves is ripe for change. It is at this time that planners and architects:

"... must be aware of the close relationships among environment, performance and purpose. The creation of a physical environment is the immediate goal. The operational setting, however, influences human action no less than the physical setting. Both interact to condition the performance of the judicial system and its participants which are also inter-related. Performance may fail to meet objectives; evaluation of such a lack of correspondence may spotlight areas of the physical or operational environment requiring improvement.

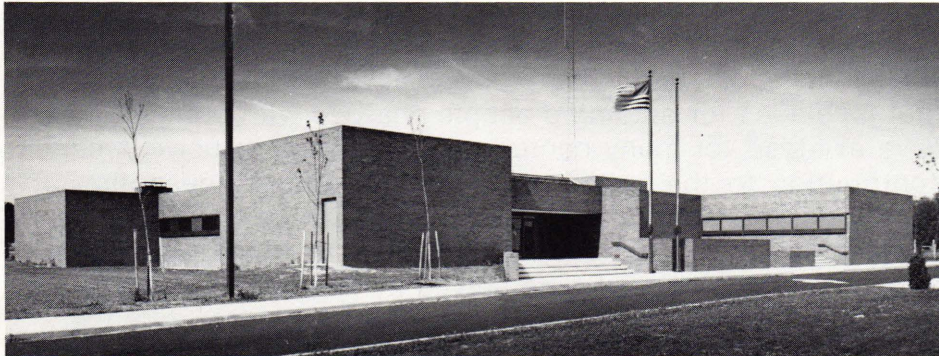
The architect, then, must have a firm understanding of the objectives and operations of the judicial system if he is to design a physical environment that will enhance the system's performance and the effectiveness of the people who operate it."

*\*The American Courthouse, Planning and Design for the Judicial Process* American Bar Association and the American Institute of Architects Joint Committee on the Design of Courtrooms and Court Facilities; Institute of Continuing Legal Education Michigan, 1973, p. 1.

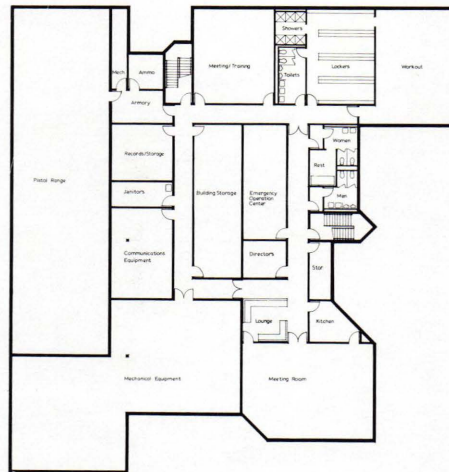




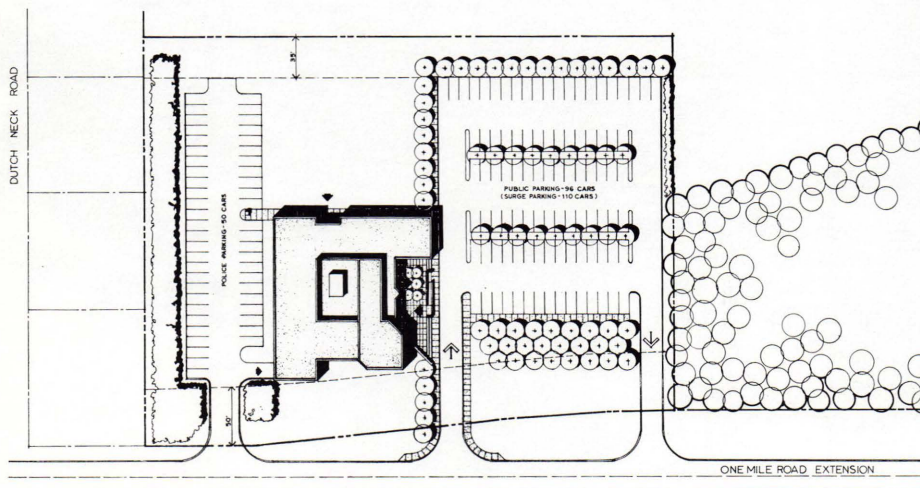
COURT ROOM & COUNCIL CHAMBER: OLD  
BRIDGE — CUH2A, ARCHITECTS  
(PHOTO: Otto Baitz)



EAST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL  
BUILDING — CUH2A, ARCHITECTS  
(PHOTO: Otto Baitz)



LEFT: FIRST FLOOR PLAN, EAST WINDSOR  
RIGHT: BASEMENT PLAN, EAST WINDSOR



SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN: EAST WINDSOR

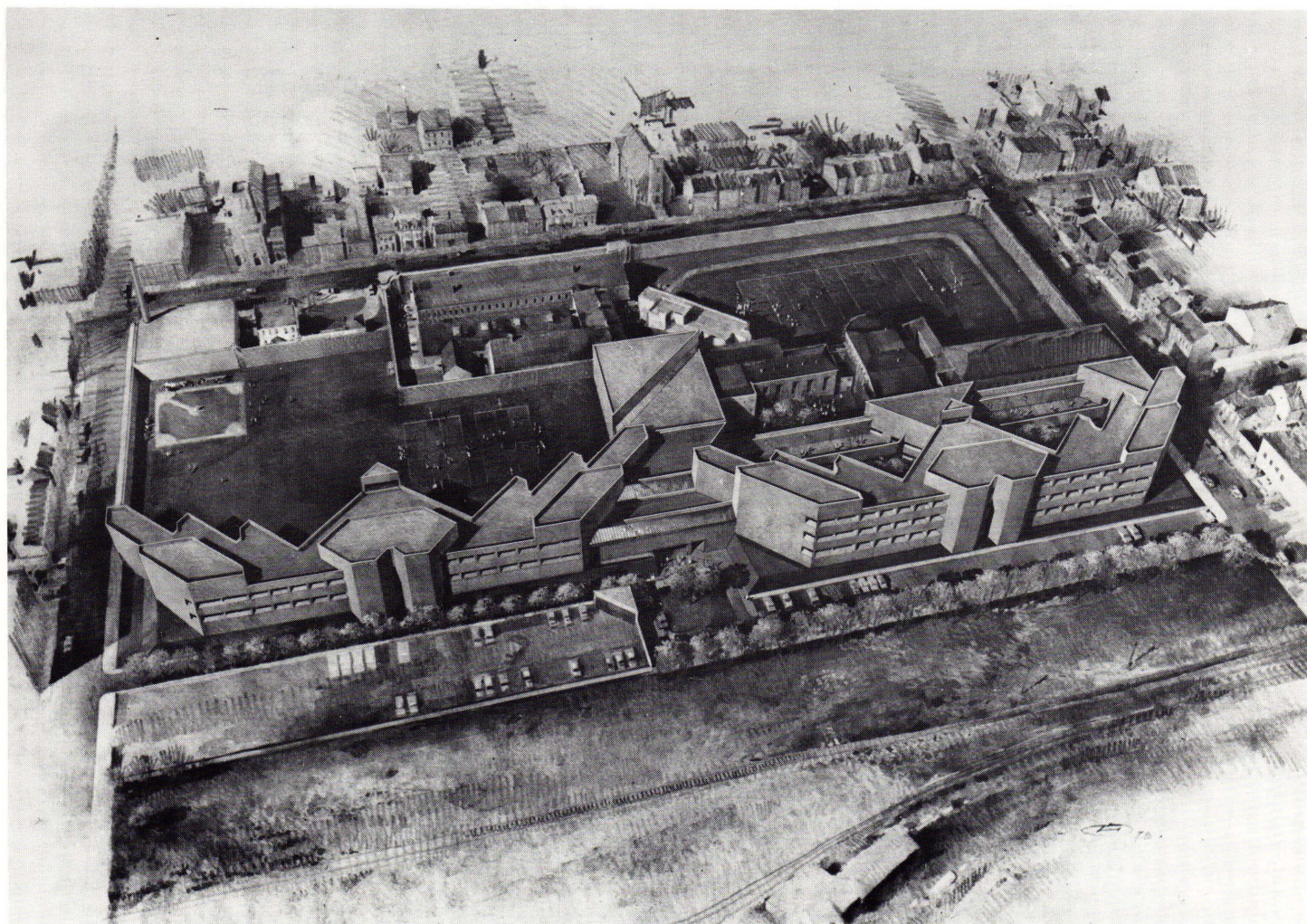


# the evolving correctional design

by Paul Silver, AIA

Since the early part of the 19th Century, the United States has played the leading role in the creation and utilization of prisons as a primary means of punishing convicted offenders. It is to be recognized, to the credit of our forefathers, that the conditions in European jails led them to the mandating of prohibitions against cruel and unusual punishment. This, combined with the American aversion to exile as a form of criminal sanction, created the early setting that led to the modern penitentiary system. It was in America that the idea of punishment consisting of the exclusive loss of freedom evolved. It was in America that the Quakers first proposed a system of criminal sanctions which was restricted to depriving a convicted offender the right of freedom and where it was held that the denial of that right was sufficient punishment. While the Quakers saw the penitentiary system as a place for penitence and reform, it quickly moved away from its original goals into a place of punishment. In many ways the Quakers' concept, while idealistic, failed to be realizable. While it is true that jails — that is, places for detaining people charged with criminal acts — have existed for many centuries, it was the exclusive American contribution to the justice system that created the notion of a facility designed specifically to house convicted, not charged offenders who were paying their debt to society through the loss of freedom. The amount of time served by the inmate soon became correlated with the character and seriousness of the offense.

*Paul Silver is a partner in the architectural firm of Gruzen & Partners, with offices in Newark and New York. His specialty is Justice Facilities.*



TRENTON STATE PRISON EXPANSION: GRUZEN/GRAD ARCHITECTS



Within 50 years architecture had formulated a fairly stable vocabulary of forms responding to the developing redefinition of the purposes of penitentiaries and jails. As time passed, the Quakers' model of a facility for penitence gave way to a model developed in New York State and known as the Auburn model, which was based upon the notion that constructive hard work made men honest. This industrial model, as it was called, became the basis upon which almost all the correctional construction for the next 100 years was based. The principal architectural form became known as the telephone pole plan and consisted of a central corridor spine with perpendicular cellhouses often two, three or more tiers high with cells either located in the interior along a plumbing core, or on the exterior adjacent to the window. Since prison life resulted in little constructive activity, the inmates remained locked away in their small cells for as many as 20 hours per day. The environments were designed around the main concern of security and its allied function of traffic, management and control. The end result was an architectural form which was also exclusively controlled by a preoccupation with maintaining every conceivable control on every conceivable escape situation. The design of these facilities soon became the model for jails and prisons throughout the civilized world. Even today, nations like France and Japan still build facilities modeled after these mid-19th century concepts. However, the inherent psychological effect, combined with the associated physical harmfulness of these environments, soon became the subject of concerned discussion. The end result was a series of legal actions which extended over a century of litigation, and finally resulted in the establishment of the concept of prisoners' rights that put an end to the validity of traditional correctional programs and their physical expression.

In the early 1960's, court rulings handed down by a wide variety of Federal and State judiciaries from New York to California, damned forever as cruel and unusual punishment the industrial prison model once regarded as a great humanitarian concept.

As a result of the vast array of rulings extending prisoners' rights, the architectural forms of the 19th century proved unable to satisfy the evolving standards set for modern facilities for confinement. While it is true that it was county jails which first mainly felt the impact of these court rulings, it was not long before state systems, with their large prison population, fell under the scrutiny of legal action. The end result of the process has been to create a need for a new architecture that is humanistic and at the same time secure whereby the obligations of the State to both the safety of society and the incarcerated population are met.

#### THE ARCHITECTURAL CONSEQUENCES

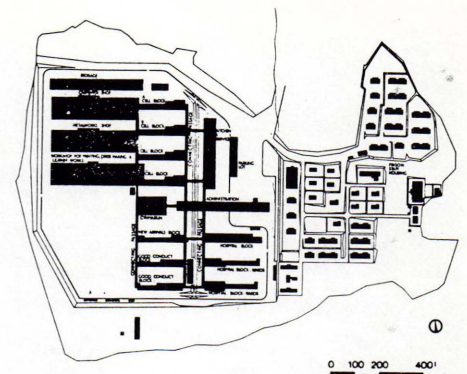
The great challenge in prison architecture since the mid-60's has been to produce

an architectural form which is responsive to the evolving definition of prisoner's rights. These rights included not only an assurance of personal safety, but an environment which did not produce lasting harmful physical or psychological conditions which would interfere with the individual's ability to reenter society as a law-abiding citizen upon his release. Since more than 95% of all people incarcerated will return to a free society, it is clearly critical that an awareness of the importance of this concept be recognized. As part of the process of establishing inmates' rights, the courts established minimum standards of food, clothing and physical comfort (which dealt with such diverse issues as temperature and noise control). It was clear that the traditional cellblock failed dramatically in dealing with all the issues.

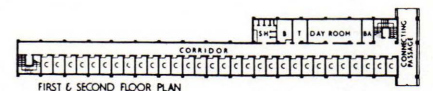
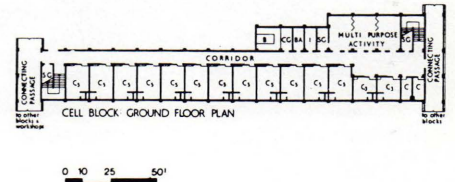
In the late sixties, efforts were made to establish a new physical plant based upon such evolving standards. The word "normativeness" became a standard part of the architectural vocabulary in corrections. The new concept stressed an architectural design which was devoid of the traditional symbols of incarceration and possessed characteristics which were similar to those of a free world in its spatial and sensory features. A great deal of discussion led to the development of standards which emphasized the important objective of achieving residential character in the scale and details of detention and correctional facilities. The court rulings stimulated a great construction boom, often to replace and in some cases to significantly upgrade existing institutions. While the concept of normativeness is drawing a great deal of interest, it is based upon an unsubstantiated hypothesis that normativeness in architecture can be achieved in an abnormal environment. In addition, the replacement of the traditional symbols by a new set of symbols, while not being as readily apparent, will nonetheless be a keenly felt set of new negative symbols.

Be that as it may, the options available are not attractive. We are not in a position — nor would we wish to be — to return to any of the forms of the past. The architecture that has evolved will need time to prove its validity. Much of it is based on the notion of inherent flexibility — that is, the ability to change dramatically without significantly disrupting the physical plant of an existing building. The challenge confronting architects today is not only one of achieving an environment which minimizes negative stresses while providing security, but also permits adaptation through the years in response to evolving concepts of correction and inmates' rights.

The architecture flowing from this ongoing evolution of new concepts has been immensely varied in its forms. No fixed model has emerged, but many different designs responding to varied programmatic and geographic characteristics have developed. One might break down the design direc-

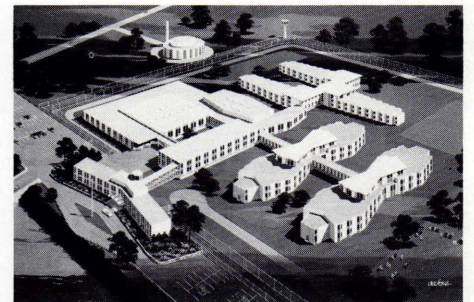


Site Plan



#### Residential Unit

TELEPHONE POLE CONCEPT: FOKOKA, JAPAN, VBNR/GRUZEN & PARTNERS ARCHITECTS



PHILA. HOUSE OF DETENTION: THALHEIMER, WEITZ, BELLANTE, CLAUSS, ARCHITECTS

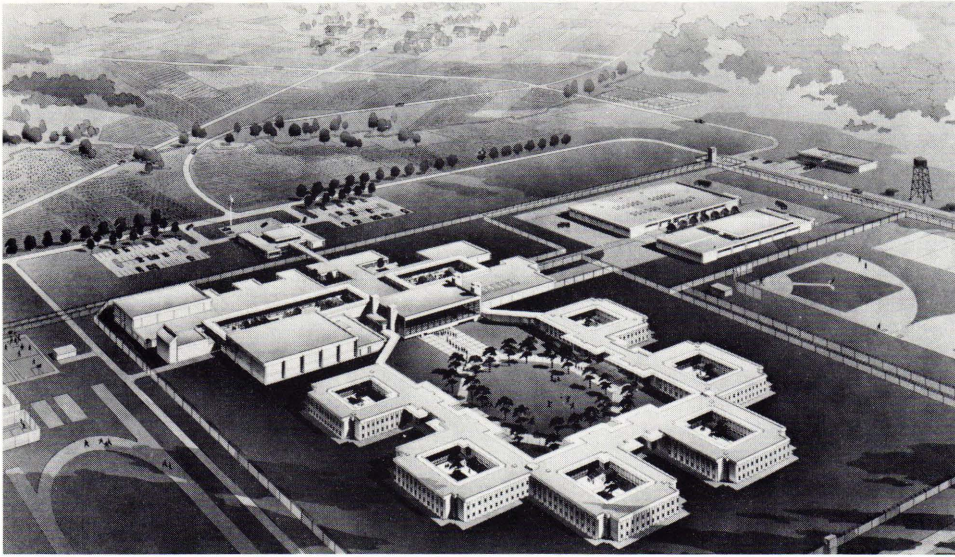


YARDVILLE YOUTH CORRECTION CENTER — DiLULLO, CLAUSS, OSTROSKI, ARCHITECTS  
PHOTO: Loomis-Shade

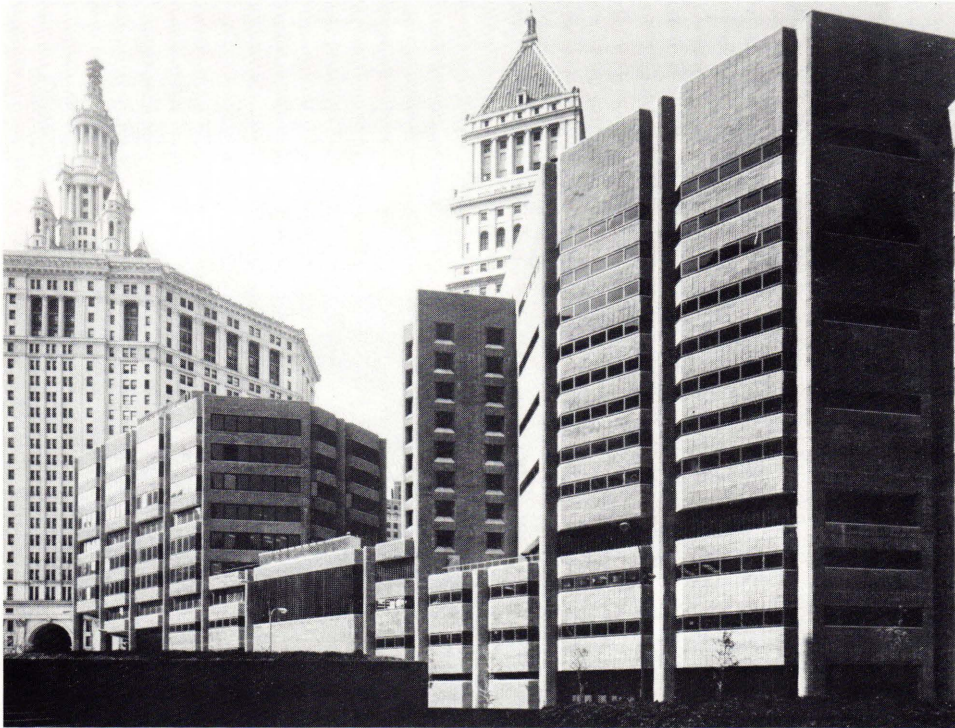


YARDVILLE: DiLULLO, CLAUSS, OSTROSKI, ARCHITECTS (PHOTO: Cortlandt V.D. Hubbard)

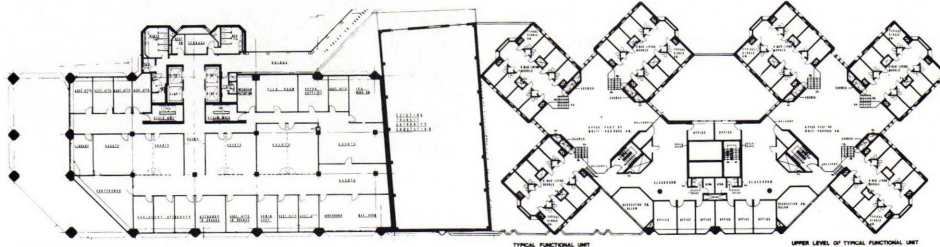




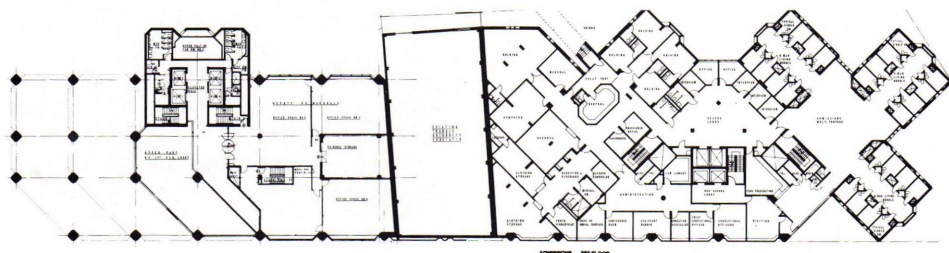
STATE PRISON; LEESBURG, N.J., GRUZEN & PARTNERS, ARCHITECTS



METROPOLITAN CORRECTION CENTER; NEW YORK CITY, GRUZEN & PARTNERS, ARCHITECTS



FLOOR PLAN: METROPOLITAN



FLOOR PLAN: METROPOLITAN

tions into several different categories. There are low rise buildings set in a rural or suburban context and there are buildings which would be called hi-rise structures. Both building types have undergone significant evolution during the last decade.

A significant example of a low rise, rural setting complex is the medium security facility at Leesburg, New Jersey. In 1971, this design was considered unique in the history of penal architecture as it created a secure yet viable environment aimed at alleviating as much as possible the usual oppressive sense of confinement. The buildings were kept low so as not to interfere with the rural character of the site, and the dining hall was elevated to afford the inmates a view out of the prison across the countryside.

A contemporary example is the Keogh-Dwyer facility in Newton, New Jersey, a 5-story County jail with a warm brick exterior, which was recently completed and occupied.

The hi-rise building in particular has shown the most dramatic changes. The Metropolitan Correction Center in New York and the Reception, Diagnostic and Classification Center in Baltimore, Maryland are both examples of so called hi-rise structures and represent significant departures from the tradition of correctional architecture.

Another example, currently under construction here in New Jersey, is the Trenton State Prison. The exterior facade presents itself to the community with sleek, sculptural lines and a major skylit entrance approach. The feeling of arrival is one associated more with a civic structure than a correctional facility.

The internal space organization, the physical character, and the design of the living units are but a few of the significant deviations from the traditional form of the cellhouse. In addition, the architecture of these buildings allow them to fit more comfortably into an existing community without the negative external expression characterized by traditional forms.

It should be recognized that interesting and unusual site problems have always been associated with correctional facilities. This is well demonstrated by another hi-rise facility of unusual character. The Ramsey County Detention Center in St. Paul, Minnesota represents a difficult site problem which was responded to by a facility design that exploits the limitation of an otherwise dubious site.

Attempts to achieve a naturalness of character, a smallness of scale more comfortable for human groupings, in addition to acoustical and circulation control, have led to a variety of designs. It is also important to realize that one of the critical characteristics of this new architecture has been emphasis on smallness of scale.

The low rise facilities concept is far older than that of the hi-rise type and has more direct links with traditional design of the past.



The basic concept that has dominated this form of solution has been the campus or cottage plan. Many new facilities preserve this form. However, even this form has significantly changed from the character of the previous low rise building types. The most significant feature of this evolution has again been in the area of smallness of scale and non-institutional character. The old-fashioned long cellhouse has been replaced by a more "residential" building size and scale, and the inmate groups have been reduced in size enabling spatial characteristics of an inmate living area which is more suitable for human habitation. The character of the facilities that has evolved both in the hi-rise and the low rise has stressed the importance of providing an environment where people, while held against their will, are not punished beyond the loss of freedom, nor denied the opportunity for rehabilitation.

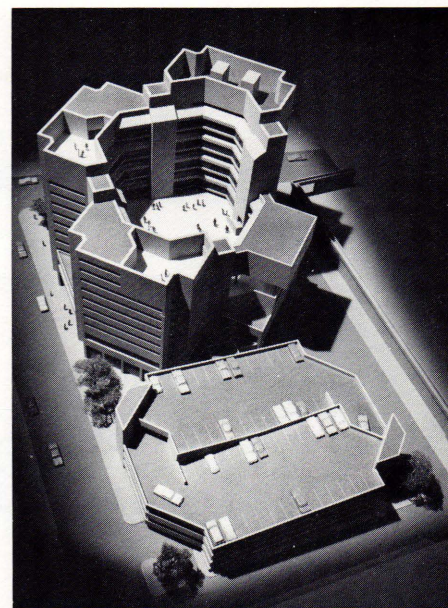
Achieving security has become an extremely sensitive issue when added to the pressures for humanness of design. However, the two objectives are not mutually exclusive and can be achieved through sensitive recognition of the fact that security still must be met and the physical environment must be maintainable without using traditional symbols of prison architecture.

The Minnesota High Security facility at Stillwater represents an interesting application of architectural environment combined with security design. The living areas of this facility line the wall of a hillside. They are faced into the interior which forms a major activity space. Thus, in effect, the facility achieves its security by being built up against a "wall" of earth and thereby provides an inexpensive but nonetheless very effective security barrier without resorting

to the traditional features of a correctional environment. Moreover, the inmates look inward to an environment which is formed by architecture and not by walls and fences. The normalizing physical aspect of these features cannot be overly stressed. The characteristics that follow, tend to minimize the negative experiences that architecture can produce. The usual restrictiveness and movement limitation within a traditional institution are not part of this design. In fact, this high security facility, housing an extremely difficult population, is made up of essentially autonomous mini-institutions each comprising approximately 50 inmates. The ability to interact with other groups of fifty is provided for in the flexibility of the institution, but can managerially be controlled to maintain proper operational function. Also, the very character of the design allows for a broad range of program options and interaction of inmate groupings, enabling the program area to be shared when it is appropriate and kept separate when it is not, without complicated managerial staffing implications which traditional facility design mandates.

The emphasis has been and still remains on adaptability. It is imperative to recognize that correctional facility architecture involves a dynamic building type and that any set of features built into them today may become wholly inappropriate twenty years from now. It is extremely difficult to predict precisely where correctional facility design is heading. With the evolution of constitutional requirements establishing inmate rights, the design of these facilities cannot follow the rules of the past. Imagination and flexibility in design are the key elements that will help determine the character of the facilities of the future.

Working closely with correctional agen-



RECEPTION, DIAGNOSTIC & CLASSIFICATION CENTER: BALTIMORE, MD. GRUZEN & PARTNERS, ARCHITECTS, N.J. McLEOD, FERRARA, ENSIGN, MARYLAND (PHOTO: Louis Checkman)

cies at local, state and federal levels, concerned architects have demonstrated their sensitivity to the important issues of prison reform. From this, today's correctional facility design has taken great strides forward in creating an environment that is helping to achieve new goals in human rights.

## project self: annandale youth correctional institution



INMATES USE RENOVATED PHONE ROOM.

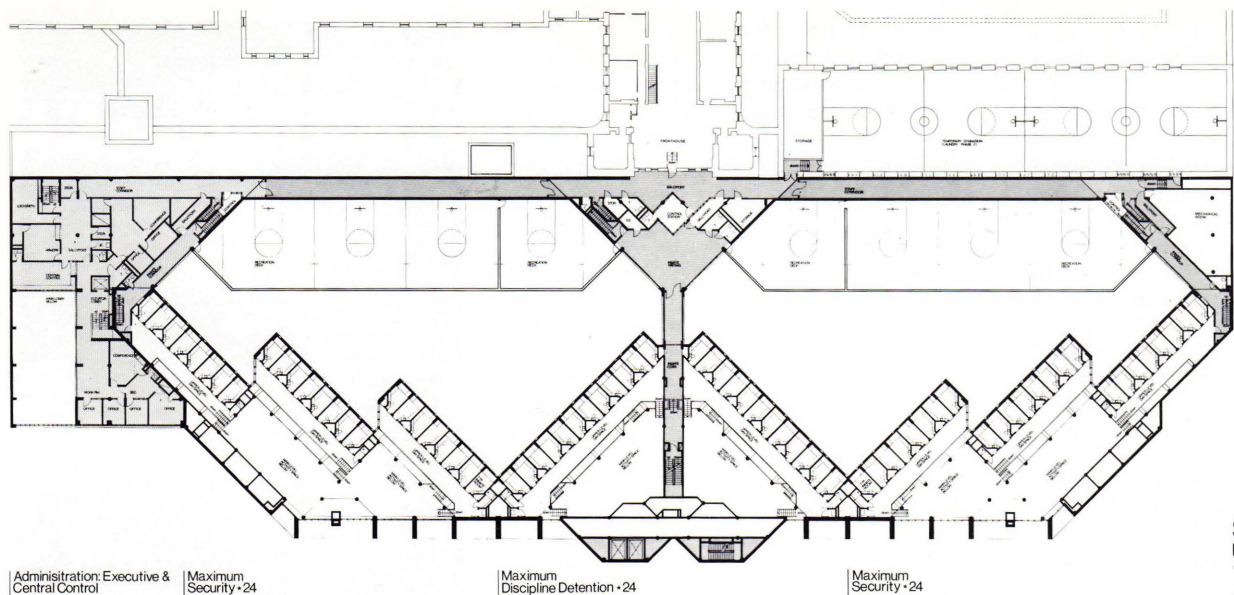
William Mikesell, an Associate Member of the New Jersey Society of Architects, planned and directed a rather unusual application of the Architects-In-School Program: He worked with inmates of the Annandale Youth Correctional Institution over a ten week period in a program which enabled them to physically improve their prison environment. Relying on past experiences in assisting young people design and construct playgrounds and a slide exposure to Daniel Brown, A.I.A.'s Trenton High School Architect-In-School Program, he began the Annandale project, named "Project Self," in January of 1977, assisted by Mr. Rodger Kell, a Fine Arts Instructor.

The program involved daily two-hour meetings with volunteer inmates assisting them to select areas to be renovated and upgraded, discuss methods of improvement, sketch design concepts, build study models, review schemes with Institution authorities and finally, to perform the work

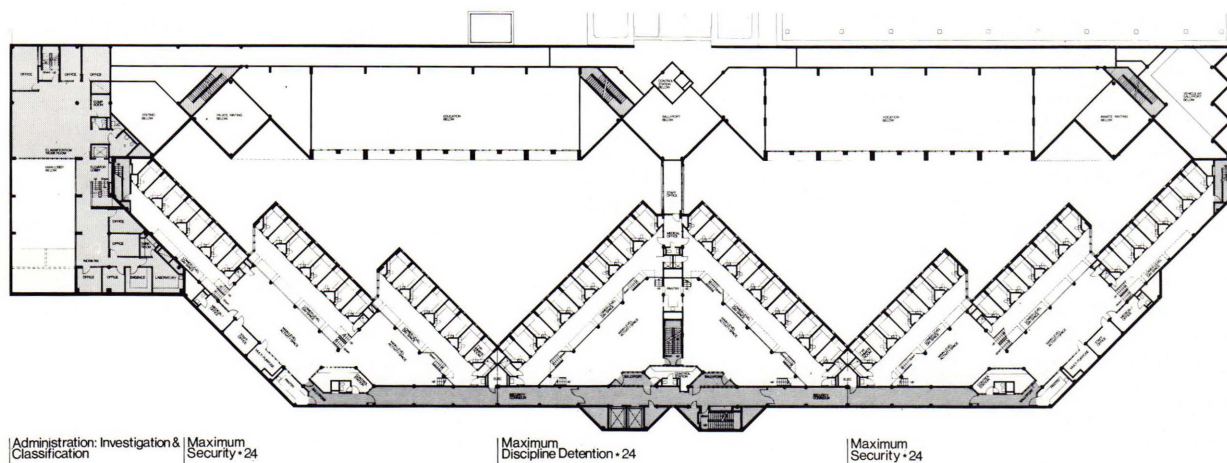
required. Initially, the inmates' telephone room was chosen. The work included repairing existing wall surfaces, constructing new partitions and seating and designing and painting a large wall mural. Later work focused upon improvements to a recreation room.

Mr. Mikesell considers his difficult task: creating a program, holding the interest of participants whose average educational level was that of the sixth grade, which would teach inmates to exercise control over their environment, a success. The resulting spaces were well received and utilized and those who took part in the program learned a basic approach to problem solving and the need to communicate with reviewing authorities. Indicative of the lessons learned is that the inmate group wished to devote more time to the design steps and involve more of the Institution community as it proceeded to study the recreation room upgrading.



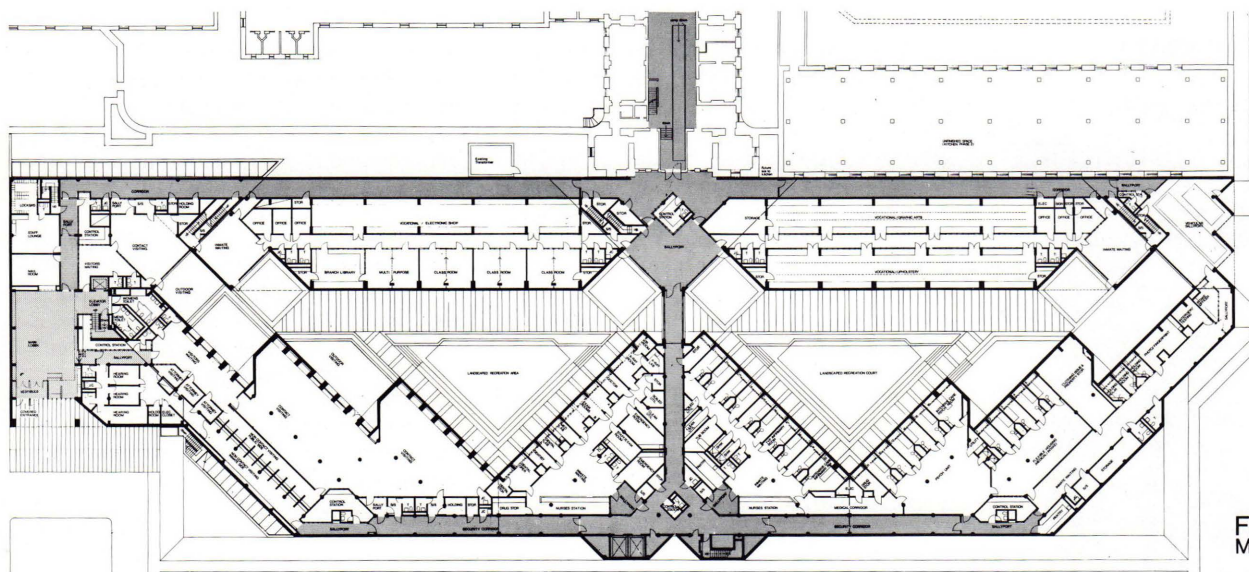


SECOND  
UPPER LEVEL



0 10 30  
SECOND  
LOWER LEVEL

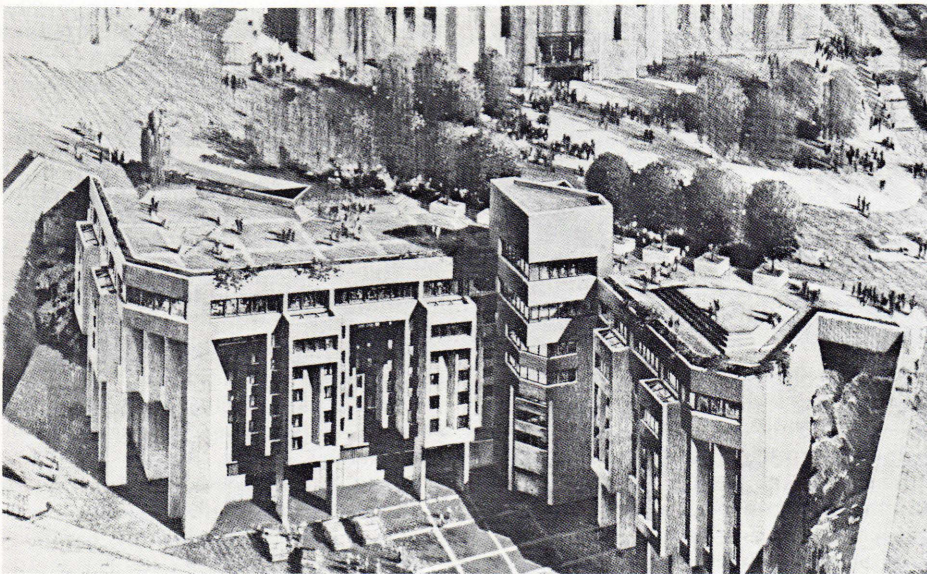
TRENTON STATE PRISON, GRUZEN/GRAD, ARCHITECTS SECOND UPPER AND LOWER LEVEL



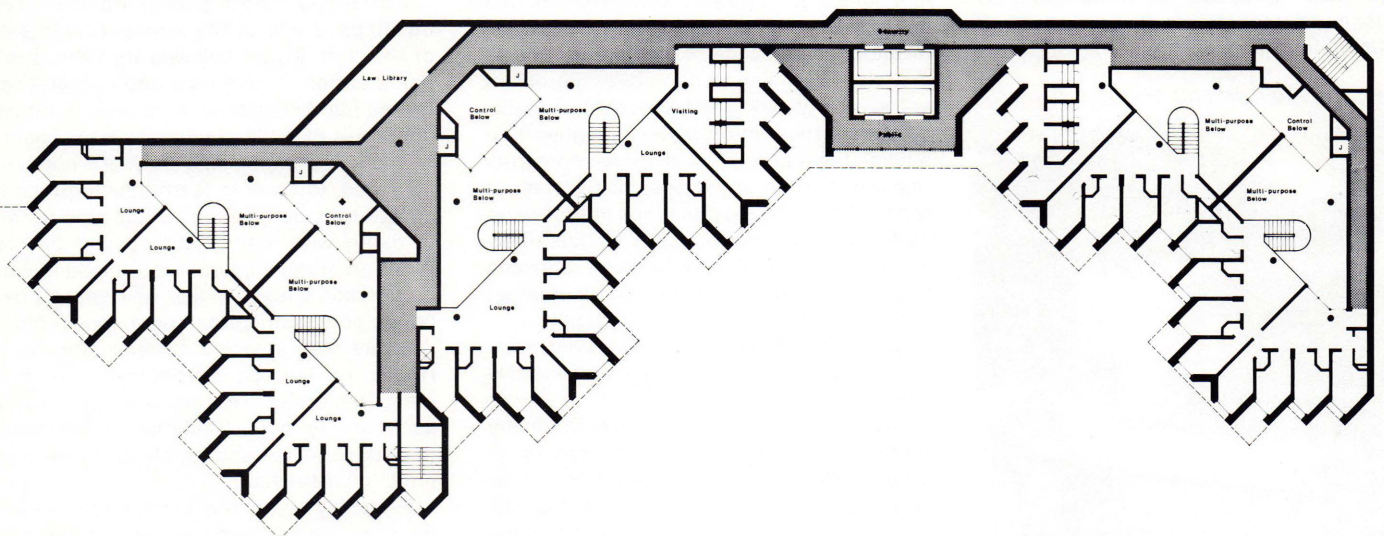
FIRST  
MAIN LEVEL

FIRST MAIN LEVEL, BASEMENT





RAMSEY COUNTY ADULT DETENTION CENTER, ST. PAUL, MINN. WOLD ASSOCIATES, ARCHITECTS GRUZEN & PARTNERS, ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS.



RAMSEY COUNTY DETENTION CENTER, HOUSING UPPER LEVEL



# office profile

## e harvey myers aia architect planner

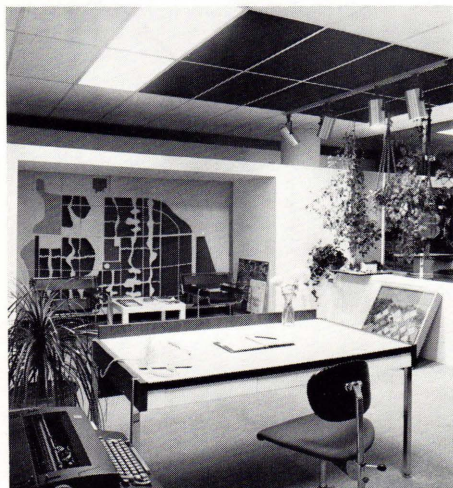


*E. HARVEY MYERS, FAR LEFT, CONFERS WITH PARTNERS LARRY JOHNSON, CENTER, AND GEORGE JONES.*

In ten short years, the partnership of E. Harvey Myers has firmly established itself in a city rich in architectural talent — Princeton, New Jersey. E. Harvey Myers, Larry Johnson and George Jones form the nucleus of the 14-person staff in steadily expanding offices at 20 Nassau Street in Princeton.

The firm stresses diversification to assure a constant stream of challenges and to stimulate fresh, new ideas.

*RECEPTION AREA, MYERS OFFICE.*



And it welcomes problems. E. Harvey Myers gained a reputation as a problem solver in its early years through innovative approaches to obstacles old and new, large and small. It was through this experience that the firm began to realize that excellence in problem-solving was infinitely more valuable than aesthetic designs which did not completely meet the needs of the client.

A prime example of the Myers approach is a current joint project which the firm has designed for the Mercer County Park Commission. The placement of 26 tennis courts on a natural rolling terrain posed a problem at the county park. The Myers design dualized the courts at different levels rather than placing them all in a row to permit construction without major changes in the natural terrain. This also provides for a natural wind buffer for most of the courts — thus utilizing the 30' elevation differences between the highest and lowest court to its greatest potential practically and aesthetically.

E. Harvey Myers has also solved complicated problems for several Fortune 500 companies.

The Prudential Life Insurance Company wanted the option of using portions of its future New Brunswick building for other tenants. It also desired a flexible one-or-two floor design and requested that an office facade and trucking facility be available for each tenant. The multi-tenant design Myers

submitted accomplished everything Prudential asked for.

New Jersey Bell Telephone Company called on the firm to design an electronic switching station (ESS) prototype which would readily lend itself to easy construction at any number of sites throughout the state.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation commissioned E. Harvey Myers to design a sophisticated surveillance building at the Newark International Airport complex. The building will house a computer used to monitor stranded cars and traffic congestion on the New Jersey Turnpike.

Recently, the Xerox Corporation selected E. Harvey Myers to redesign the interior of its Secaucus building, a project which required major renovations without interfering with the company's day-to-day operations. Another challenge eagerly accepted by the Myers firm.

At Princeton University's Forrestal Campus, E. Harvey Myers recently designed a two-level environmentally-controlled laboratory which will be used for highly sophisticated energy-derived experiments. The firm has also been retained to design another building for the Forrestal complex.

Other clients include the Presbyterian Homes, Inc., AT&T, IBM, Oxirane International, Cybis Porcelain, United States Postal Service, American Can, Johnson & Johnson, Sanyo Electric Company, Nassau Inn and many cities including Philadelphia and Newark.

E. Harvey Myers has also benefited from its experience as consultants.

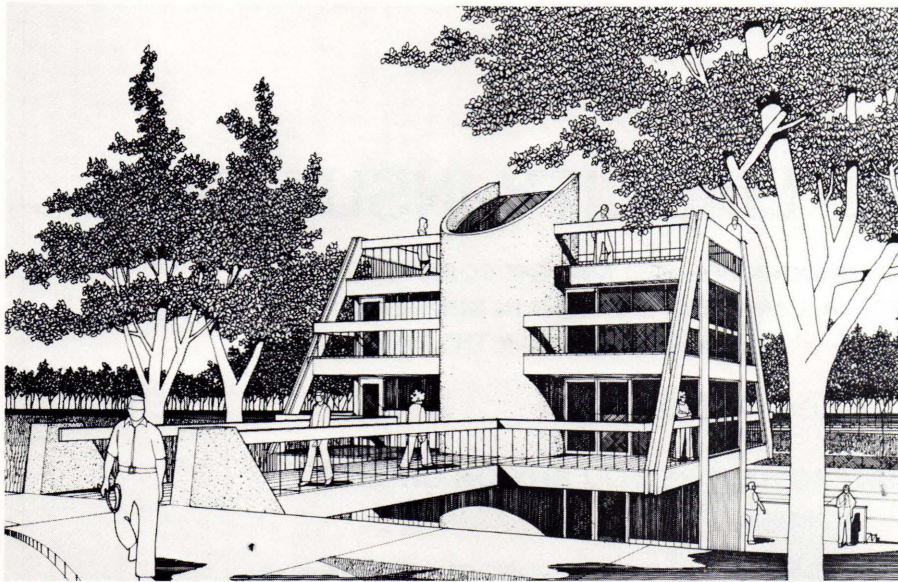
The National Basketball Association called on E. Harvey Myers to provide an in-depth study of the Rutgers University Athletic Building to determine its adequacy as a home facility for the New Jersey Nets. The report was requested by Lawrence O'Brien, Commissioner of the N.B.A. The recommendations by the firm were approved by the league and the Nets are currently playing at the Piscataway arena.

Currently, designing barrier-free buildings is one of the strongest interests of the firm. Myers believes that the firm's participation in seminars and conferences for the handicapped is important, but most important of all is communication. The architects feel that since they are not handicapped, the way to learn how to properly design truly barrier-free buildings is to talk in depth with many handicapped people. When an architect can "feel" the handicapped person's need, Myers believes, he can have a better understanding of the problem.

Myers was selected to make the State House in Trenton barrier-free, the first stage in a project that will eventually make each of the nine buildings in the State Capitol Complex accessible to those confined to wheelchairs.

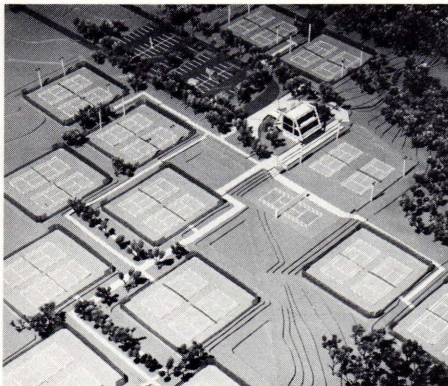
E. Harvey Myers has come a long way in ten years and should have no problems as long as other companies continue to have problems to solve.



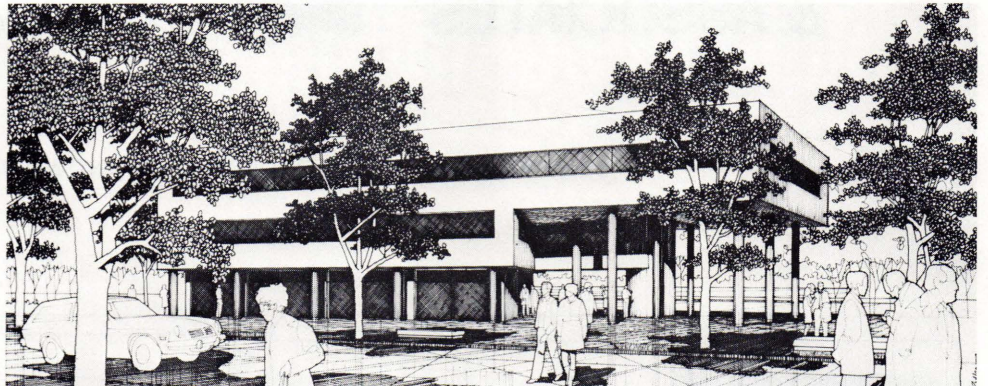


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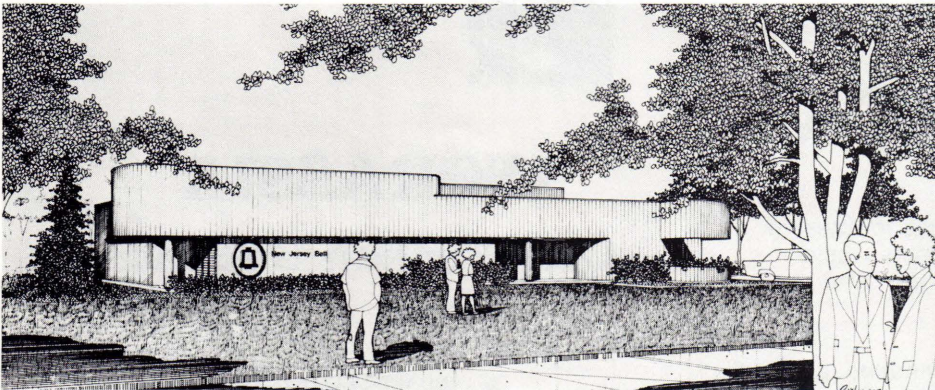
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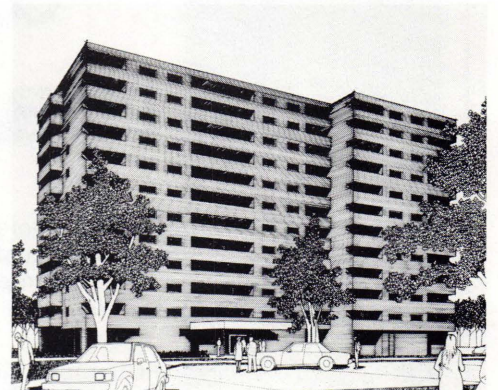
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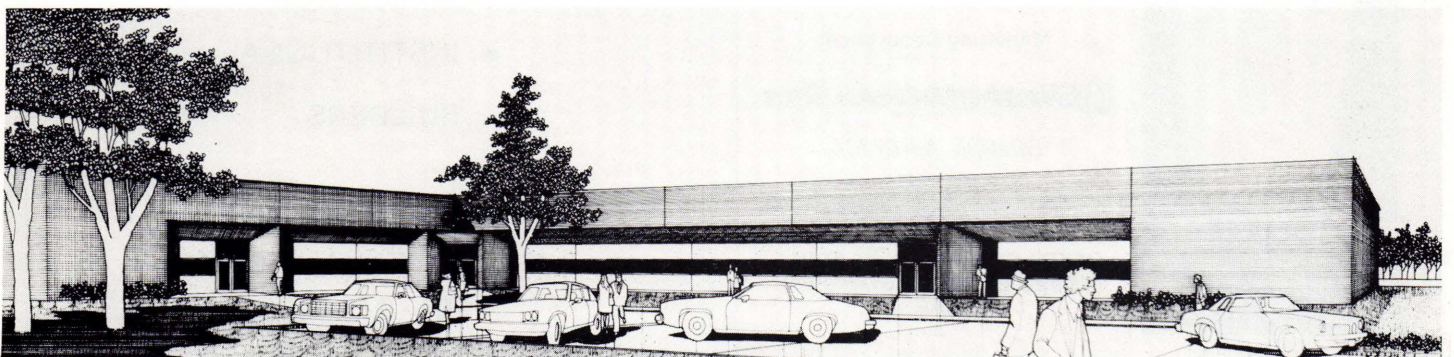
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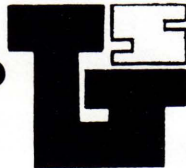
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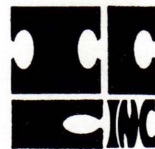
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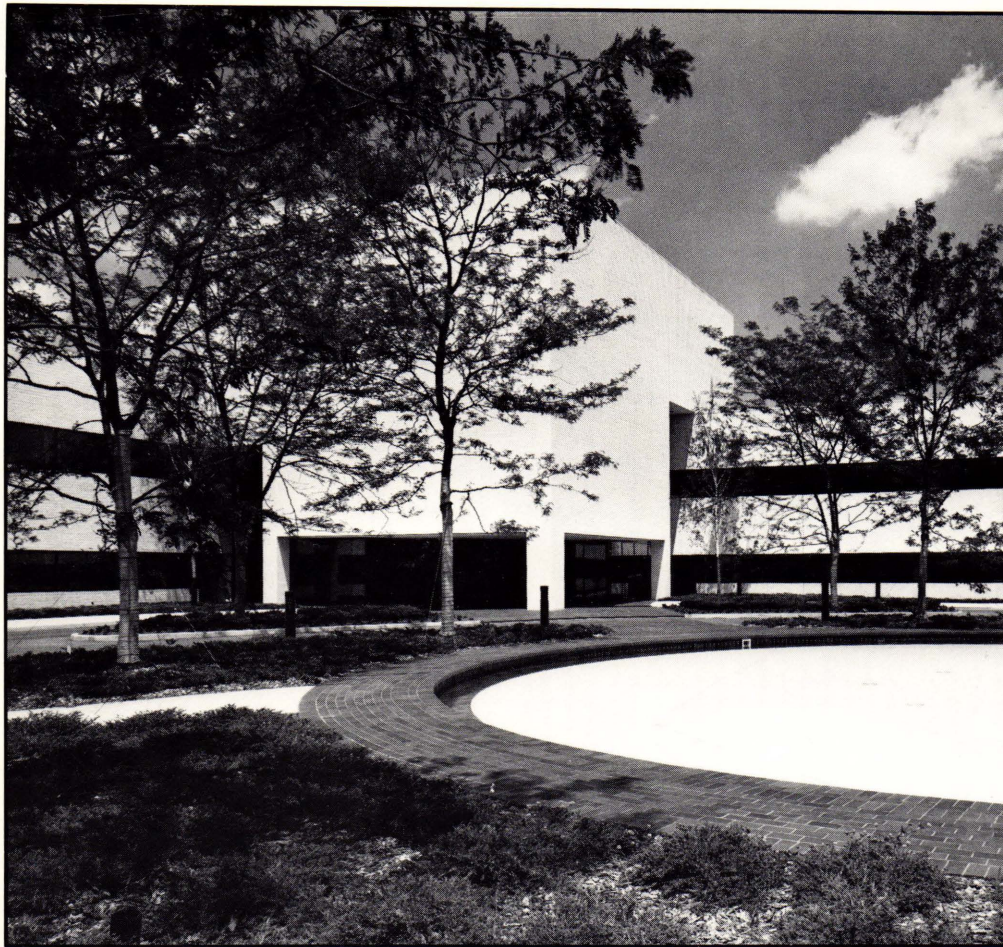
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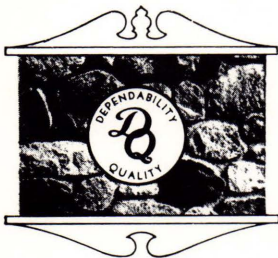
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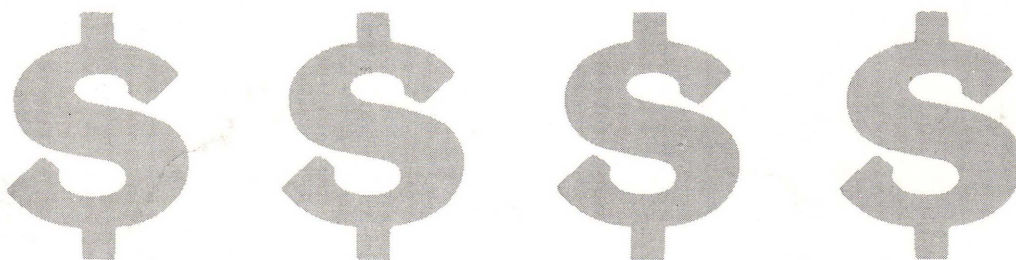
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